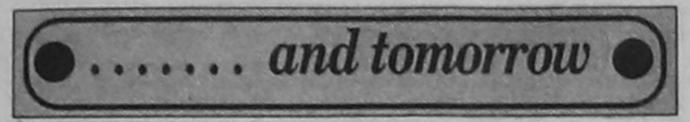
What's on today

Andrei Tarkovsky Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Andrei Rublev on the second day of the Andrei Tarkovsky retrospective. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Road No 7, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:00 pm.

Iranian film festival at JU: Zahir Rathan Film Society will screen two films by celebrated Iranian filmmaker Abbas Klarostami: "Where Is My Friend's House?" and "The Taste of Cherry." Venue: The Muktamancha (Amphitheatre) of Jahangirnagar University. Time: 6:30 pm.

Meeting: The regular and board meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Golden will be held. Venue: Great Wall Chinese Restaurant. Time: 6:00 pm

DRU rally: Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) will hold a protest rally to condemn the killing of Shamsur Rahman Special Correspondent of Janakantha based in Jessore. Venue: DRU office, 8/4-A Topkhana Road, Segun Bagicha. Time: 12.00 noon.



Andrei Tarkovsky Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen The Mirror and Stalker. Venue: Goethe Institut, Road No 8, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 5:00

Weather

Thundershowers likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country with heavy to very heavy fall at places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Rainfall may decrease in next two days, Met Office predicted. The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 32.5 degree Celsius at Syedpur and the lowest 21.5 degree Celsius

at Chittgong. The sun sets in the capital today at 6.48 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.22 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Temperature Humidity in City/Town in Celsius percentage

	III CCISIUS		percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	27.7	25.3	85	84
Chittagong	27.4	21.5	98	93
Rajshahi	29.2	26.5	88	92
Khulna	28.2	25.2	90	97
Barisal	28.5	24.5	92	92
Sylhet	30.0	26.1	88	94
Cox's Bazar	28.0	24.5		98

HERE and THERE

BCU

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) brought out procession and held rallies across the country vesterday urging students to refrain from adopting unfair means in examinations:

BCU has announced a series of programmes as part of its

gramme on the Dhaka Univer- college. sity campus and held a rally in

Addressing the rally, BCU leaders said, "our education sector will be destroyed if we cannot check copying and terrorism in educational institu-

They urged all the students moval of the principal. and organisations to join the movement.

Khoda Torik, Hasan Tarik tended it. Chowdhury Sohel and Sharifuzzaman Sharif addressed the

BCL

By DU Correspondent

Ruling party backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday demanded ban on the politics of Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir and also trial of war criminals in special tribunal terming them 'enemies of humanity'

In a memorial meeting to commemorate the death of eight in Chittagong recently. the BCL leaders also said the fundamentalists and religious fanatics are hatching conspiracy to destroy democracy in the country.

Speakers at the meeting. held at the Teachers and Students Centre (TSC) auditorium of the Dhaka University, criticised the four-party opposition alliance saying "they are creating unrest and anarchy in the society by killing and various destructive activities."

Presided over by Bahadur Bepari, the rally was addressed, among others, by Abdur Razzak, Minister for Water Resources, Prof Arefin Siddique, Dr Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Syed Hasan Imam, Ramendu Majumder, Shafiqur Rahman, Khokan and Prasanta Bhusan

hold a grand rally at the

Laldighi Maidan in Chittagong on July 20 to press home their

Women's Polytechnic Institute

By Staff Correspondent The Students' Union of Women's Polytechnic Institute "Save the Education" move- at a meeting yesterday welcomed the authority's decision The BCU central executive to remove Junior Instructor committee observed the pro- Ashok Kumer Kundu from the

For the last few days, the front of the Arts Building on the students of the institute had been staging demonstrations demanding removal of Kundu for his alleged involvement in corruption. A photo caption published in The Daily Star Tuesday inadvertently mentioned that they wanted the re-

The meeting was held on the college premises and all sec-Among others. Monjur-e- tions of staff and employees at-

Oncology Club

Oncology club has taken an initiative to form a SAARC Federation of Oncologists (SFO). This was disclosed in a recent meeting of the club, says a press release.

Although some eminent on cologists are known all over the world from this sub-continent. working at home and abroad, there is hardly any initiative at all to bring them together along with the local specialists to improve the quality of care for thousands of patients afflicted with cancer in the SAARC coun-

Oncology Club is a common platform of all physicians related with cancer patient management in Bangladesh. Prot ABMF Karim, Chairman Oncology Club also added that the ground work for formation o SFO has been started.

Urdu poet Nuri dead

Eminent Urdu poet Naushad Nuri died at his Lalmatia residence in the city yesterday. He was 78, reports BSS. He had been suffering from

Former editor of the weekly "Jarida". Naushad Nuri was a Golam Quddus. Ajay Kar well-known figure in the literary circles of the country.

His namaz-e-janaza will be held at Mohammadpur Jame Meanwhile, the BCL will Masjid today after Zohr prayers.



activities. The meeting was chaired by Md Monwar Hossain Chowdhury, Chief Engineer, LGED. Also seen in the picture are Surya Saran Regmi, leader of the Nepalese delegate (third from left), Md Shahidul Hassan, Addl. Chief Engineer, LGED and MA Halim of the European Commission, Dhaka.

DU Peace and Conflict Studies dept admission test Aug 11

By DU Correspondent

Application in prescribed forms have been invited by the newly established Department of Peace and Conflict Studies of the Dhaka University for admission into the one year MSS programme in Peace and Conflict Studies for the session 1998-1999, says a press release.

Those who have obtained the honours or equivalent degree in 1997 or 1998 in Political Science, International Relations, Public Administration, Economics, Sociology, Anthropology. History or Geography from any university are eligible to apply for the admission. Students who have just appeared in honours or equivalent exami-nation of 1998 in any of the above subjects can also apply. Master degree holders and students with third class grades in any of the above examination will not be eligible for admis-

Application forms for admission will be distributed from the office of the Chairman of the department (room no 5003, Arts Building) in exchange for Tk 225 during working hours from July 20 to August 7. Last date for submitting forms along with necessary documents is August 7.

The admission test will be held on August 11 from 10:00 am to 11:00 at the Arts Building of the university, the release

Congratulations



Shaolie Samira Hossain. a student of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), secured first class first position with honours in Bachelor of Science examination in Mechanical Engineering, held in 2000 (session-1997), says a press re-

Her CGPA and GPA ratings are 3.83 and 3.93 respectively. She is the only student who got honours in Mechanical Engineering this year.

Apart from academic success, Samira has also outstanding records in sports. She became champion in various sports events at BUET.

Dr Md Anwar Hossain, Director General, Islamic Institute of Technology (IIT), OIC, and Shahana Hossain. Sr Deputy Chief of Personnel BCIC, are her parents.

Nigeria keen to use Bangladesh experience in farming

Nigeria wants to derive ben efits from Bangladesh's experiences in farming, a Nigerian government representative said yesterday, reports BSS.

Nigerian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Abdul Lahai Madike Bage, during a meeting with Agriculture Minister Begum Motia Chowdhury, said his country was eager to learn about farming from others.

He said though crude oil is the number one exportable item of his country, the new Nigerian government is putting greater emphasis on agriculture. To that end. Nigeria is stressing on transfer of farm technology from Bangladesh and exchange of visits by experts of the two countries, he told the Agriculture Minister.

Welcoming the Nigerian High Commissioner, Begum Motia Chowdhury said Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has made appreciable progress. She expressed Bangladesh's readiness to cooperate with Nigeria on high yielding jute, food production and research activities in the field of agriculture.

Thomas Aguryi Ironsi, Minister of the High Commission. was present during the meeting.

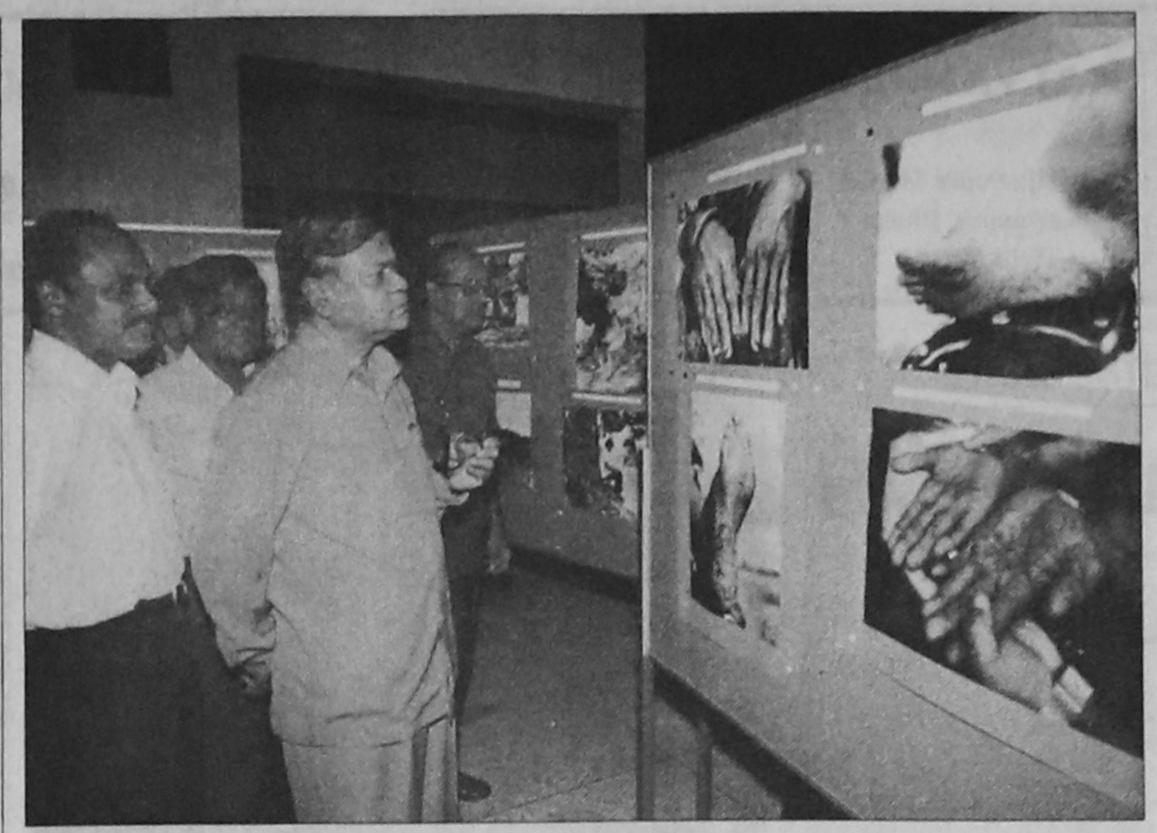
Death anniversary



The fifth death anniversary of łazi Mohammad Darvesh Ali, ex-headnaster Valta High school, will be observed today

n a befitting manner, says a press release. Born in 1920, Darvesh Ali passed Matriculation examination in 1940 and graduated from Bagerhat P.C. College in 1944.

To mark the day, Nalta High School Ex-student Sangsad will hold a milad mahfil on July 20 at Nalta Sharif Mosque. And a discussion meeting on the life and works of Darvesh Ali will be held on August 11 at the Aula new central committee in ditorium of Architecture and hear future as the party has Planning, BUET, at 3 pm. adopted a "go slow" policy.



A two-day exhibition of photographs on "Arsenic Contamination" and "Degradation of CHT," organised by Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB), began at - Star photo the National Press Club yesterday.

Govt urged to ban politics of Jamaat-Shibir

BRAHMANBARIA. July 18: President of Jativa Mohila Sangstha Ivy Rahman yesterday described the Jamaat Shibir as human killers and urged the government to immediately ban the politics of religious fanatics, reports BSS.

"Ban anti-liberation Jamaat-Shibir clique which has been active after the gruesome killing of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the black night of August 15, 1975," she said at a huge women's gathering here.

"Autocrats Zia, Ershad and Khaleda Zia had rehabilitated the Jamaat-Shibir clique for ruining the thought and spirit of the War of Liberation when they were in power," she said

From page 1

their preparations for the elec-

tion. What we need to do now is

to ensure a level playing field

for all. We must guarantee equal

discussions with many in BNP.

"They expressed confidence in

my ability to hold a free and

pointment with Leader of the

Opposition (Khaleda Zia) and I

hope to get it soon. The Opposi-

tion should not have any reser-

talked-about Upazila polls,

Syed said he will think of it

only after the new voters' list is

finalised by October. Hinting

that Upazila polls could be held

in December or January, he

said he would decide it in

agreement with the ruling and

the bureaucrat-turned-CEC

said, the EC must be strength-

ened and better equipped. "It is

impossible for the Election

Commission to hold a fair elec-

tion without cooperation of all

concerned. I am sure about get-

JCD activities

turn since formation of the pre-

sent JCD committee with

Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu as

general secretary on December

student activists from JCD cen-

tral committee and inducted his

close non-student associates in

it in phases to make all its units

loyal to him, they told the

They also named some BNP

leaders including a former

prominent student leader and a

top Juba Dal leader who are

close to party hardliners. These

leaders backed Pintu in taking

which caused immense damage

Some of them told the com-

mittee that a BNP leader always

provoked the JCD leadership to

lay a siege to the office of Dhaka

University Vice-chancellor to

press demands and call strike

on the campus. The leadership

also called hartal on the cam-

pus on the day the university

conferred honorary degrees to

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

and Nobel laureate Amartya

out support including financial

assistance to Pintu and his as-

sociates and instigated group-

ing. They influenced the leader-

ship to go for imprudent pro-

grammes, the committee was

formed the committee that

Pintu and his associates com-

pelled JCD President Habibun

Nabi Khan Sohel to act as per

the committee to form new JCD

bodies at the central, city and

DU levels with regular students.

give priority to dedicated and

brilliant students and to drop

ossibility of resumption of ac-

and DU units and formation of

livities of JCD's central city

BNP sources said there is no

Majority of them suggested

their desire.

The JCD leaders also in-

These BNP leaders gave all-

up "imprudent" programmes.

to the organisation.

committee, the sources said.

Pintu drove out dedicated

From page 1

About fairness in election,

the opposition parties.

ting that cooperation.

3. 1998.

Asked about the much

"I have also sought an ap-

Syed said he had informal

treatment to all.

vation about me."

fair election", he said.

conspiracy of that vested quarters would be resisted through mass movement. Chairman of the District

Mohila Sangstha Minara Alam presided over the function. It was addressed, among others, by Executive Director of the Sangstha Masuda Binte Kadir, district Awami League President Advocate Lutful Hai Sachchu, central leader of Bangladesh Krishak League M A Karim, Chairman of the local Pourasabha Helal Uddin and former student leader Kamruzzaman Ansari.

Ms. Rahman said this was high time that pro-liberation forces build up a mass movement against the anti-liberation elements like Jamaat-Shibir clique who were directly and added that the politics of involved in the gruesome mur-

In this regard, the CEC said

he will soon take steps for some

electoral reforms as suggested

at different times. He suggested

that election rules must be

made stricter by making neces-

To a question about the up-

The EC has sent a letter to

the Prime Minister's Office sug-

gesting that ministers should

not campaign in the by-polls,

he said, noting that there is no

with relevant government au-

thorities tomorrow to ensure

peaceful holding of the by-polls,

The new voters' list did not

include those living abroad, the

CEC said. The list will be thor-

oughly reviewed and revised

following objections and sug

gestions from those who wil

use it in the next elections, he

Bushra murder

From page 12

The CID officials said the ac

cused was taken on police re-

mand yesterday evening and

they were questioning the

social organisation, will hold a

meeting and protest rally at the

Noor mosque premises on

Rampura Road in the city at 4

p.m. today, demanding the trial

A press release of the organi

sation said Bushra murder case

was transferred to CID to clear

Abdul Kader of the charges.

Several newspaper reports

quoting the investigation offi-

cer of the DB had mentioned

that Kader was involved in the

PM: UN summit

US on a bilateral visit in Octo-

ber. The dates for the first US

official trip is yet to be fixed but

hectic consultations are going

on between Dhaka and Wash-

are on to advance the date of the

US trip to tie it up with the UN

event. If that is not possible the

prime minister might have to

have two entirely different

In case both the US trips

Hasina spent two weeks in

take place, then she would be

visiting the United States

the US earlier this year, which

included a lecture at Harvard

University and receiving the

prestigious Pearl S Buck Award.

Later, she spent a week with her

embark on an official visit to

Deaths condoled

President and General Secre-

tary of Bangladesh Krishak

League (BKL) Alhaj Rashed

Mosharraf and Harun-Or-

Rashid Hawlader yesterday

jointly condoled the death of

Assistant Attorney General Ad-

vocate Abril Khaier and Krishak

leader Abdul Kader Sarkar, ac-

cording to BKL press release, re-

Malaysia later this month.

The Prime Minister is due to

Sources however said efforts

From page 1

of the killers of Bushra.

killing, it added.

ington.

schedules.

thrice this year.

daughter in Florida.

Meanwhile, Chetona '71, a

The EC will hold a meeting

law to ban such campaigning.

coming by-election in Jhalo-

kathi, Syed said he was doing

his best to make it neutral and

sarv changes.

peaceful.

mand.

housemaid

der of student leaders in Chit tagong recently.

Ms. Rahman also distributed loan among needy women at the Zilla Parishad auditorium here. The loan was given under the Entrepreneur Development Project of the Jatiya Mohila Sangstha.

Meanwhile, in a statement, Ms. Rahman also condemned the killing of journalist Shamsur Rahman by terrorists in Jessore on Sunday and urged the government to arrest the culprits involved in the murder and give them exemplary punishment. She also expressed deep

sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed

No hidden agenda Journalists rally

From page 1

Union of Journalists (DUJ) Bangladesh Press Sramik Federation and Bangladesh Employees Federation. Speakers at the rally called for united movement against

terrorism and violence. The life of Shamsur Rahman could have been saved had the killers of Mukul, Editor of the Runner, been punished, they

The meeting conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family of journalist Rahman and prayed for peace of the departed soul.

The parishad also chalked out a seven-day programme to protest the killing. The programmes include

wearing of black badges by journalists, workers and employees of newspapers and news agencies, hoisting of black flag at the Jatiya Press Club build ing till Sunday, observance of mourning day on Saturday and a protest meeting at the Press Club at noon and work stoppage from 12 noon to 3 pm the same

The parishad leaders will also participate in a protest meeting at Jessore.

Presided over by BFUJ leader Amanullah Kabir, the meeting was also addressed by noted journalist A B M Musa Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, Daily Jugantor Editor Golam Sarwar, Financial Express Chief Editor Reazuddin Ahmed, Bangladesh Observer Editor Igbal Sobhan Chowdhury. Habibur Rahman Milon. Gias Kamal Chowdhury, M Shahjahan Mian, Azizul Islam Bhuiyan, President of the Jatiya Press Club Khandaker Monirul Alam and General Secretary Sawpan Kumar Saha. Sved Kamaluddin, Abdul Matin, Zahirul Haq, BFUJ leaders Akhtar Ahmed Khan and M A Aziz, DUJ leaders Altaf Mahmud, Abu Saleh and Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, and Secretary General of Bangladesh Press Sramik Federation Mozammel

Body formed

From page 1 rial meeting here vesterday with Health and Family Wel fare Minister Sheikh Fazlul

Karim Selim in the chair.

The other members of the committee are: Director (CDC). Director (IEDCR), Director (NIPSOM), Director (BCC), Director (Research), Civil Surgeon of Dhaka and Chief Medical Officer of Dhaka City Corpora-

The meeting took a decision to destroy breeding abodes of mosquito in order to combat spreading of dengue fever in the The meeting also asked the

authorities concerned for strengthening preventive measures and monitoring the situation round the clock. Medical scientists, experts and the concerned line direc-

tors were present in the meet-Copyright Bill

President Shahabuddin Ahmed assented to the "Copyright Bill 2000" yesterday, re-

ports UNB. The bill was passed in the budget session of the parlia-

Dengue: Things to know

From page 1

Basic treatment?

The major abnormality observed in Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) is increased loss of blood and of plasma from body. Early and effective fluid replacement of lost plasma with electrolyte solutions, plasma or plasma expanders usually results in a favourable outcome. With adequate fluid administration, blood plasma loss is rapidly reversible. Rapid replacement of fluid will usually prevent disseminated intravascular coagulation. Prognosis depends on early recognition of shock based on careful monttoring, and proper manage-

It is not necessary to hospi- may cause pulmonary edema. talise all patients with suspected DHF, since shock may develop in only about one-third of the patients. In order to be able to recognise the early signs of shock and thus take preventive action, parents or family members should be advised to bring the patient back for repeat platelet and other blood component determinations every 24 hours. They should also be instructed to keep a careful watch for any signs of clinical deterioration or warning signs of shock such as restlessness and/or lethargy, acute abdominal pain, cold extremities, skin congestion, or oliguria, usually on or after the third day of illness. Patients with mild DHF can usually be rehydrated NCID, CDC, USA.

if there are any signs or symptoms of shock such as restlessness/lethargy, cold extremities, rapid weak pulse, hypotension, a sudden rise in hematocrit or continuously elevated hematocrit despite administration of intravenous fluids. Frequent recording of vital signs and monitoring urine output are important in evaluating the results of treatment. Blood

transfusions are contraindi-

cated in patients with severe

plasma leakage in the absence

of hemorrhage, and if given,

orally and an antipyretic drug

may be all that is needed. Sali-

talised and treated immediately

Patients should be hospi-

cylates should be avoided.

Blood transfusions are indicated for patients with significant clinical bleeding. It may be difficult to recognise internal bleeding in the presence of hemoconcentration. A drop in hematocrit of 10% with no clinical improvement despite adequate fluid administration may indicate significant internal hemorrhage. Fresh whole blood is preferable and fresh frozen plasma and/or concentrated platelets may be indicated in some cases when consumptive coagulopathy causes massive

bleeding. Source: Duane J Gubler, Director. Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases.

Biman-TUs

Opposition plan

From page 1

alliance components. Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan of BNP, Naziur Rahman Manjur of JP. Moulana Motiur Rahman Nizami of Jamaat and Mufti Fazlul Huq Aminee of IOJ called on Ershad at his Baridhara office yesterday evening. The meeting was held to re-

move differences among the allies over united election and to work out ways and means of intensifying the current antigovernment movement. Meeting sources told the

news agency that Ershad raised his demand for formal declaration by the four chiefs of a united electoral battle in the coming general elections. The matter of separate mass

procession on July 25 in the capital also came up for discus-

Briefing newsmen on behalf of the alliance after the meeting, Naziur Rahman said their unity would remain intact.

He said the alliance would contest election and form a coalition government. "Inshallah, we will form a nationalist and Islamic government in fu-The JP secretary general

said they were formulating plans to intensify the movement for resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner, new Election Commissioner, cancelling the Public Safety Act, release of the arrested political leaders and workers under the PSA and immediate resignation of the government.

Referring to the recent killings in Chittagong and of a journalist in Jessore, Manzur asked the government to stop 'anarchy let loose under state errorism.

Otherwise, he warned, the government would have to bear the consequences of an anarchic situation in the country

Microbus

From page 1

after the incident, police sources said

However, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to arrive in the port city tomorrow to hold meetings with administrative officials on law and order and her party men at Chittagong circuit house, official sources said.

The Home Minister and IGP came here after the Bahaddarhat incident and held separate meetings on law and order.

Hartal: Jessore

From page 1

The IGP held a meeting with high officials of CID of Jessore, Khulna. Rajshahi and Dhaka at midnight on Monday and discussed the murder. Seventeen people have so far

been arrested in connection with the murder case and they are being questioned. The arrested people include

two armed cadres of Sramajibi Mukti Andolan and two of Purbo Banglar Communist Police are yet to ascertain if

the four out of 17 are involved. in the shooting in Janakantha office on Sunday night. Police are yet identify the

journalist of Khulna who recently accompanied a top terrorist of 'Hasan Bahini' to Janakantha office at Jessore for threatening Shamsur Rahman to stop writing against Shimul. Meanwhile, the murder of

Shamsur Rahman has evoked widespread protests in Khulna. Khulna Union of Journalists, Metropolitan Union of Journalists, Khulna Press Club and Regional Sangbad Patra Parishad jointly held a condolence meeting today.

They condemned the murder and demanded exemplary punishment to the killers.

Speakers at the meeting expressed their grave concern over the deteriorating law and order in Khulna city.

Later, journalists brought out a mourning procession wearing black badges. The procession paraded city's main roads with banners demanding security of journalists who wrote against Ershad Shikdar and Shimul

From page 1

of Biman into a PLC. Strategic partnership can be built without changing the status of the state owned airline".

But he said they were yet to get any formal invitation for talks with the management or with the minister. The trade unions staved off a briefing session on Monday

when government appointed consultants from Citibank Group, New York, briefed the Biman management on the privatisation plan. Under the World Bank aided

privatisation programme, the

'strategic partner' will be of-

fered 40 per cent share, keeping

nine per cent for Biman em-Landslide

From page 1 due to poor visibility during heavy rain, port sources in-

Low-lying areas in the ad-Joining Chaktai, Bakalia, Muradpur, Bahaddarhat, Katalgani, Hathazari, Fatikchhari, Raozan, Rangunia, Anwara, Lohagara and Satkania were also inundated due to flash

flood, witnesses said. Traffic movement was thin in the city. Airport sources said sched-

uled flights between Chittagong and Dhaka were delayed due to heavy downpour. The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre in Dhaka

recorded rise in water levels in

Brahmaputra-Jamuna and Ganges basins today. Out of 46 water-measuring stations monitored by the centre, 25 points recorded rise, 16

showed fall and one remained steady. The highest 241.7mm rainfall was recorded at Panchpukuria followed by 170mm at

Lama, 161mm at Chittagong,

104mm at Bandarban, 45.8mm

at Barisal, 45mm at Parshuram and 36mm at Patuakhali. UNB Patuakhali correspondent adds: Low-lying areas in the coastal district town went

under 2-3-foot water. The areas included Chakbazar, Puranbazar, Kathpatti Road. Girls' High School Road, Jubilee High School Road.

Govt lab From page 1

Shimulbag and Arambag.

is rising, which definitely is of

great concern." Said Hassan, "Out of 20 cases referred to us by private and government hospitals vester-

most deadly form of dengue. At the same time, there are 45 patients hospitalised in BIRDEM with suspected dengue fever." "The important thing is to have blood platelet count without delay. If the count (for adult) is less than 100,000 it is likely that he or she may be infected.

day, we found two having the

50,000 platelet, then the patient definitely has acquired dengue haemorrhagic fever that may cause bleeding. Meanwhile, sources in various private and public hospitals have said there has been sudden rise in number of patients with

But if the count shows less than

symptoms of dengue fever in last one week. "We're a bit surprised to have so many dengue patients suddenly," said a doctor at a private city hospital, referring to the

rising number of patients with the fever. Many more small clinics told the Daily Star yesterday that they received suspected cases but most of them were re-

ferred to government hospitals. The global prevalence of dengue, according to a WHO report, has grown dramatically in recent times particularly in the

endemic zones like Bangladesh where a large number of population is exposed dangerously to dengue transmitters — Aedes Eigypti, the female mosquito. In some countries dengue outbreak is explosive.

"Bangladesh could be in such a situation but no-one knows exactly what the situation really is since there is no specific study on dengue prevalence in the country," said a Health Directorate official on condition that he not be named.

A visiting Nepalese delegation held a meeting with senior LGED officials yesterday on LGED's diversified